

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NRC-05 NSAE-00 USIA-06

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC 3892

C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 31237

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM,

SUBJECT: BELGIAN NC BORING & MILLING MACHINES TO  
ROMANIA--IL 1091

REF: COCOM DOCS (76) 1429 AND 1430

1. BELGIAN DEL STEVENS, AT HIS REQUEST,  
MET WITH USDEL AND KRATZ OCTOBER 14 TO EXCHANGE VIEWS  
ON ISSUES ARISING FROM BELGIAN MACHINE TOOL CASES AND  
WAYS TO ELIMINATE PROBLEMS ON FUTURE ONES. BELGIAN DEL  
WAS ACCOMPANIED BY TWO MEMBERS OF BELGIAN DELEGATION TO  
EXPORT CONTROL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING THEN IN PROGRESS.  
STEVENS MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS:

A) BELGIAN AUTHORITIES ARE STRONGLY INTERESTED  
IN REDEFINING IL 1091, PARTICULARLY SUB-ITEM (B), TO  
REDUCE CONTROLS ON TYPE BUILT IN BELGIUM. IN JUSTIFI-  
CATION HE ARGUED THAT (1) LIMITED SALES TO BLOCOF  
THIS TYPE OF EQUIPMENT ARE NOT STRATEGICALLY SIG-  
NIFICANT, AND (2) OTHER COCOM COUNTRIES WERE ALREADY  
SELLING THIS TYPE OF EMBARGOED EQUIPMENT TO BLOC WITH-  
OUT COCOM APPROVAL (HE REFUSED TO NAME THE COUNTRIES  
OR FIRMS INVOLVED); (3) THE BELGIAN MACHINE TOOL IN-  
DUSTRY, AND NOTABLY PEGARD, EXPORTER IN THESE CASES,  
WAS STILL IN ECONOMICALLY DEPRESSED STATE. HE INDICAT-  
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ED HIS AUTHORITIES WERE ANXIOUS TO SEE A REDEFINITION

SOON, AND WOULD ASK COCOM TO TAKE MATTER UP. WE -  
RESPONDED BY SAYING US WAS ALSO DEVELOPING A REFORMULA-  
TION OF THE DEFINITION, AND WOULD PROBABLY BE PREPARED  
TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL TO THIS END BY FEBRUARY OF NEXT  
YEAR. WE ALSO URGED BELGIANS TO FORMULATE THEIR OWN  
PROPOSAL IN ORDER FOR US TO HAVE SOME IDEA OF WAYS  
IN WHICH THEY THOUGHT DEFINITION SHOULD BE CHANGED.

2. STEVENS INDICATED THAT BELGIANS INTENDED TO SUBMIT  
SEVEN MORE MACHINE TOOL EXCEPTION REQUESTS TO THE COM-  
MITTEE. HE WANTED TO KNOW HOW U. S. COULD ELIMINATE  
ITS PAST PROBLEMS IN HANDLING SUCH CASES, PARTICULARLY  
WITH REGARD TO THE LENGTH OF TIME IT TOOK THE U. S. TO  
STATE A FINAL POSITION.

3. U. S. SIDE ASKED IF THE BELGIANS WOULD PERMIT THE  
EXPORT OF THESE MACHINES EVEN IF THE U. S. OBJECTED.  
EARLIER STEVENS HAD RESPONDED TO A SIMILAR QUESTION THAT  
HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD DEFINITELY PERMIT THESE MACHINES  
TO BE EXPORTED EVEN IF THE U. S. DID OBJECT TO THE EX-  
CEPTION REQUESTS COVERING THEM. THIS TIME, HOWEVER,  
STEVENS' RESPONSE WAS MORE CAUTIOUS AND HE INDICATED  
THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD DO. IN  
ANY EVENT U. S. VIEWS ON THESE MACHINES WOULD BE SERIOUS  
LY CONSIDERED BY THEM. HE RECALLED THAT THE COMMITTEE  
WAS ONLY A "COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION" AND THAT IT ONLY  
MADE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXPORTING COUNTRY. HE  
ASSURED US THAT BELGIUM WAS LOYAL TO ITS COCOM OBLIGA-  
TIONS AND WOULD ALWAYS SEEK COMMITTEE APPROVAL.

4. US DELEGATION RESPONDED ASSURING THE BELGIANS THAT  
THE US WOULD COOPERATE WITH THEM IN REVIEWING THEIR  
EXCEPTION CASES ON A TIMELY BASIS. BELGIANS WERE TOLD  
THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF FULL TECHNICAL DETAILS  
OF THE EQUIPMENT COULD BE SUPPLIED IN ENGLISH AT THE  
EARLIEST DATE. NEVERTHELESS U. S. DELEGATION NOTED  
THAT U. S. WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE ON THIS ISSUE  
SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS GIVING TACIT APPROVAL TO  
ANY OF THESE TRANSACTIONS AND THAT US WOULD OBJECT TO  
CASES IF IT FELT THAT STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS  
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WERE OVERRIDING.  
KATZ

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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